

Dec. 16, 2016

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## Flood Task Force Meets in Northeast La., Accepts Public Comments on Action Plan

**BATON ROUGE, La. –** The Restore Louisiana Task Force met in West Monroe on Friday and accepted public comments regarding the state's <u>action plan</u> for flood-recovery assistance.

The public comment section of the meeting coincided with the state Office of Community Development's tour of each region of the state impacted by the March and August floods. The full schedule of public-comment sessions is available <a href="here">here</a> on the restore.la.gov website.

Created by Gov. John Bel Edwards' Office of Community Development and approved by the Restore Louisiana Task Force, the action plan would be funded with an initial \$438 million appropriation from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to help homeowners, renters and small business owners affected by the two floods.

The official public comment period ends on Jan. 3, after which the state will submit the action plan to Housing and Urban Development for final federal approval.

"Public feedback on the action plan is crucial because it lets us hear from residents who would be directly affected," said Pat Forbes, executive director of the state Office of Community Development. "We encourage all residents to view the plan and weigh in with their thoughts."

About the Restore Louisiana Task Force

The Restore Louisiana Task Force comprises 21 individuals from throughout the state who were appointed by Gov. John Bel Edwards to oversee the rebuilding process after historic flooding in March and August 2016 impacted 51 parishes. The Task Force's mission is divided into six categories: community planning, economic, health and social services, housing, infrastructure and natural and cultural resources. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.restore.la.gov">www.restore.la.gov</a>.

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